

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : Cotton et al.  
 Serial No. : TBA  
 Filed : September 25, 2003  
 For : FORM OF S-OMEPRAZOLE  
 Examiner : TBA  
 Group Art Unit : 1625

<p><b><u>"Express Mail" Label No. EL608305543US</u></b>  <b>Date of Deposit <u>SEPTEMBER 25, 2003</u></b>          I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.    <u>BERNARD MAYS</u>          (Type or print name of person mailing paper or fee)    <u>Bernard Mays</u>          (Signature of person mailing paper or fee)</p>
---

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicants submit this Preliminary Amendment concurrently with their request for a continuation patent application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b). Please amend the referenced application as follows prior to the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.